

## THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1887.

## House Drainage.

Eternal vigilance is the price of health. The pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the plague that wasteth at noon-day, must be warded off at any and every sacrifice. In the conflict with health destroying germs and miasma there is no lightening of the punishment on account of ignorance. Nature exacts strict obedience to her laws, under penalties which are imposed without mercy. Yet in spite of these well-known truths, there is much ignorance of the laws of health, and much careless disregard of them on the part of all.

When the Prince of Wales was stricken with typhoid fever some twenty years ago, all England was alarmed; prayers were offered in the churches for his recovery, and the shadow of an impending sorrow hovered over the nation. Examination led to the discovery that the sickness was due to a broken tile beneath the palace.

In a certain town in New York State, typhoid fever broke out almost at once in more than a dozen families. The cause was traced to a certain well from which all were accustomed to draw water and which had been contaminated by connection with the contents of a cesspool.

At one of the hotels at a seaside resort some years ago, typhoid fever became prevalent among the guests. Too close connection of the water supply with the kitchen waste was the undoubted cause of the disease.

Among the students of Princeton college, typhoid fever was suddenly discovered. Experts were called in; thorough plans of water supply and drainage were adopted, and although the number of students has largely increased, there is no longer any sickness traceable to this cause.

Every centre of population is in danger from this source, until by proper sewerage, plumbing and drainage, the air and the water are kept free from contamination. It is evident to any one, who has thought up on the subject that a small house lot cannot furnish ground-room for cesspools out houses and at the same time a well for drinking water. Admitting that for a time the soil is capable of purifying the foul substances which are poured into it, the time must come sooner or later when its filtering power shall be destroyed and the influence of decaying animal and vegetable matter shall become apparent in the drinking water and in the air.

The case is still worse where disused wells are made the receptacle of the wastes of the kitchen. We have heard of more than one case of this kind in our village. To contaminate the sources of water supply is a criminal offense in many countries. The underground streams are almost as continuous as those upon the surface. A well sunk at a little distance from a neighboring well will often deplete its supply, showing the intimate connection of their springs. It is evident that to turn sewerage into a hole, reaching down to the water-springs must cause direct contamination to the water supply in neighboring wells.

Two things should be kept constantly in mind.

There is no safety in using water from wells within less than fifty feet from cesspools. Old wells used as cesspools are particularly dangerous.

There should be regular and frequent cleansing of cesspools and out-houses.

If these things can be left to the intelligent care of householders it is well. If not, some method of constant inspection should be devised by the Board of Health.

That it is better not to know so much than to know so much that is not so, is proved by the experience of one of our Newark contemporaries. The Journal has been sued for libel by Moses Rubenstein of Paterson, the jury returning a verdict recently for \$500 damages. The libel consisted in publishing some remarks derogatory to Mr. Rubenstein's good name in connection with the loss of some jewelry.

We have very little sympathy for papers which publish garbled, exaggerated and untrue reports of occurrences. To be sure, they are often imposed upon by over zealous reporters; but reports should be verified, and those writers who abuse their positions should be promptly discharged. Our citizens are frequently pained by the reckless reports which are given to the city papers in regard to themselves or their families. There is no censorship of the press, except such as is afforded by trial before the courts. A few sharp lessons will no doubt tend to lessen the amount of falsehood which is paid for "by the column."

On this page will be found a communication from a member of Westminster church, who is also a resident

of Glen Ridge, urging the removal of the church to that part of Bloomfield. We must confess that this is rather a startling proposition. We have accustomed ourselves to looking forward to the time when a handsome stone church would occupy the lot on Franklin street. The founders of Westminster church did not select its present site hastily, but after long and careful deliberation. Future possibilities were taken into account and duly weighed. We have only to observe that our enterprising friends at Glen Ridge should not consider a church from exactly the same standpoint as they would a railroad station or a club house.

We are informed, on good authority, that certain householders have discovered a brilliant scheme of getting rid of their sewage matter: that is to say, they turn it into their disused wells. This is certainly convenient, and it looks cheap. In a spirit of mild curiosity, we should like to know what the Board of Health think about this system of sewage disposal. If they disapprove of it, might it not be a good idea to put a stop to it before it becomes too popular?

While a determination to enforce the rule that all bills presented to the town committee for articles furnished to those presenting orders from the overseer of the poor, must have the different items stated thereon, evinces a watchful care over public interests by those entrusted with the same, it will require a great deal more than this to outfit a portion of that class who draw their supplies from the fount of public charity. Examples are not lacking, illustrative of the familiarity of this class with the laws of exchange. The tea charitably furnished to Jones sometimes finds its equivalent in exchange for tobacco or some other article not considered a charitable necessity, purchased by Brown of Smith.

## Removal of Westminster Church.

To the Citizen:

One of the hopes and desires of the late pastor of Westminster church, often expressed to the writer, was this, that sometime, before long, Westminster church would be moved to Glen Ridge.

Mr. Duffield did not live to see the realization of that hope, but was it not a wise wish and a far-sighted forecast of what would come to pass? Why should Westminster church not move to Glen Ridge, and move now, and what are the reasons pro and con?

It may be said that the church has an edifice and land that it cannot leave except at large loss. In answer, the edifice could be taken along at comparatively little expense and the land is more valuable for other purposes than for a church site.

It may also be said that a large portion of the congregation live at Bloomfield and should not be compelled to go so far to church.

In answer, a large portion of the congregation live at Glen Ridge, and have as much right to have a church at their door as the other portion. Also some may say that the expense of obtaining a site at Glen Ridge would be too great for the church; but I have good reason to believe that it would cost nothing.

Others may argue that the town cannot support three Presbyterian churches and that the result of moving the church to Glen Ridge would be the establishment of one at the extreme eastern end of the town. Will it make any difference in the result whether the church at Glen Ridge is Presbyterian or Congregational?

Now what are the arguments for removal?

First: Glen Ridge people, much as they love the Westminster church to which most of them belong, are beginning to get weary of a mile walk on every Sunday, and as the neighborhood grows, are thinking more and more seriously of the desirability of having a church nearer home.

This continual agitation, with a people of their enterprise means that in the near future a church of some kind will be established at Glen Ridge.

Is it not better that Westminster church should be taken there rather than lose the membership that it would lose?

Second: in the future, and not very distant future, it will be desirable to establish a church at the Watessing end of the town. This church will take many from Westminster, practically leaving the Glen Ridge element in the large majority. Why should they go so far from home?

Third: almost every church at Montclair is located on the west of the center of that town and the whole region between Fullerton Avenue and the centre of Bloomfield is destitute of churches. This region certainly has enough population to support a church, and as a rule when the population warrants it the church comes.

This is largely a question of expediency and should be dealt with calmly and with a view to existing facts rather than to sentiment.

From that standpoint does it not seem best that the removal that Mr. Duffield foresaw should come now?

GLEN RIDGE

## The Fire on Sunday.

To the Editor: I noticed an article in Monday's Evening News, stating that the fire on Sunday noon, was extinguished before the arrival of the Fire Department. I wish to contradict that. I was on the spot in less than one minute after the alarm was given, being in the immediate neighborhood at the time. The whole department was on the ground, ready for service, in just six minutes from the first tap of the bell, notwithstanding the long distance those Companies No. 2 and 3 had to come.

No. 1 hose had a line laid ready for work, only waiting the word from me. The fire was put out by extinguishers, no water being used. I am inserting the above you will give credit where it is due.

A. J. MARSH,

Chief of Department.

## A Commuter's Complaint.

From the Evening News.

It is very easy to see that a large majority of the patrons of the D. & W. road are Americans. Why? Because there is not another people on the globe that will put up with the same amount of inconvenience before they will (to use a common phrase) kick.

For the last twenty years the writer has been a patron of a number of the roads running into New York City. The greater portion of the time being over the N. Y. & N. H. from the eastern approach, and from the west the Pennsylvania and Erie, and latterly over the D. & W. for about three years past, and as a close observer (being quite familiar with railroad practices) I can but say that the patrons of this road have bestowed upon them less of that attention and rights which belong to them than on any of the roads over which I have been riding the above time. I have heard more expressions of condemnation from its patrons in one month than during the whole of my life on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

One nuisance is the peddling of candy in a basket that takes up the whole passageway in the cars when the passengers are being seated at Hoboken. No matter how many passengers are crowding into the cars for a seat that candy basket must have the right of way, or else it is jammed into the face of passengers in their seats to let others pass by. Not satisfied with once going through the train, but a continual passing back and forth until the train is under way: The writer has seen passengers smoking in the car from Newark into Hoboken and not a word spoken to them. In one case the writer saw a passenger call the attention of a brakeman to smoking after he had passed through the car twice.

If there is any switching to do it seems to delight the employees to get in the way of the first train and hinder its starting on time. The writer has seen it leave five minutes behind time on account of switching at the station. Finally in regard to the working men's tickets. It seems as if the road was compelled to issue them, but was doing all they could to prevent them being sold. The ticket office is open before 6:05 A. M. and the train leaves at 6:10. Many times the office is not open until the train has left, with a crowd standing at the window waiting for tickets. A great many of the workmen cannot get home until a late train, leaving New York about 6:20 P. M., or later, and when they go to the ticket office to get their slip they are informed that they must buy them through the day—very comforting to lose time to come out and buy tickets, isn't it?

COMMUTER.

## A Grand Benevolence.

The Knights of Honor did a grand work in 1886. It is strictly a fraternity, organized on the lodge plan, holding meetings at least twice a month. It has for its purpose the advancement and benefit of its own members, and the betterment of humanity in general.

During the year 1886, there was distributed in local charities through the medium of the 2,600 subordinate lodges scattered throughout the country \$120,000. This fund was distributed without any cost of disbursement, and went at once and most opportunely to the needy. While this sum is a handsome one in the aggregate, yet it was distributed without being felt by any member, and was less than \$1.00 for each member of the order. The readiness with which the call for aid is responded to by the membership is most commendable. When Charleston was visited by the terrible earthquake of last summer, liberal contributions were sent forward by the various lodges throughout the country, and only ceased to go forward when no more were needed.

Aside from these noble charities, this great benevolent order has its members to provide for those dependent upon them, when the members shall be called away from earth. It provides that a benefit of \$2,000 shall be paid to the family of every member who dies in good standing in the order. This fund is raised by assessments upon each individual member. During 1886 the assessments were called to the Supreme Lodge Treasury, and there was paid out from the sum thus realized, in direct benefits to the families and dependent ones of deceased members, during the year, \$3,123,000. These payments went in the main to those who otherwise would have left nothing for the support of their families. They were enabled to do this for the reason that the assessments are paid in sums of one or two dollars per month for each member, through the agency of his subordinate lodge.

When added to this benefit fund of \$3,123,000 the \$120,000 disbursed as local charities, we have the grand total of \$3,243,000 disbursed by the Knights of Honor during 1886. What a noble work was this, and how many widows and orphans have been kept from want, and comforted in the hour of distress and need, by the quiet but effective labors of this great brotherhood.

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657 and 659 BROAD STREET.

Fine French Gingham.

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Specialties in White Goods.

Over 500 pieces of the above goods now on sale at special prices, particularly low to-day.

Also, Attractive Upholstery Goods.

CHENILLE PORTIERS.

In excellent variety, with a continuance of our Special Prices.

FURNITURE COVERING in Tapestry, Satin and Cretonne, at prices well called to place.

LACE CURTAINS, Piano, Table and Stand Cover, Lambrequins and Cottage Drapery.

1,800 yards CRETONNE in assorted designs for 45 cts. for window. These goods are 40 inches wide, and very popular for upper windows.

LINEN COVERINGS for Parapets, Linen Crumb Cloth, Linen Seat Cush.

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BLACK DRESS FABRICS.

CREAM DRESS FABRICS.

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In our usual large variety, but at unusually low prices as we are closing out our stock to clear extraordinary inducements during this coming week.

LADIES!

Do Your Own Dyeing at home, with

PEERLESS DYES.

They will dye everything. They are sold everywhere. Price 10c. a package—40 colors. They have no equal for Strength, Brightness, Amount in Packages or for Finesse of Color, or non-fading Qualities. They do not crack or run. For sale by

GEORGE M. WOOD, Pharmacists,

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Grand Clearing Sale  
OF  
COLORED DRESS GOODS.

This Season's Importations.

Note carefully the following reductions, which are but a few instances of the SWEEPING REDUCTIONS we have made throughout the department:

36 inch Checks, "Cashmere Effects," reduced from 60c to 33c per yard.  
40 inch Plaid Suitings reduced from 65c to 43c per yard.  
42 inch All-wool Armure Checks reduced from 50c to 33c per yard.  
45 inch Checks, latest styles, reduced from \$1.00 to 63c per yard.  
45 inch Chene Mixtures, "new and nobly," reduced from \$1.00 to 75c per yard.  
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Large lot of Combination Suit Patterns at half price.

ISAAC N. DOTY &amp; CO.,

Dress Goods a Specialty.

159 and 161 MARKET ST., Newark, N. J.

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S. D. LAUTER CO.,

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Frame Upright Piano—the best upright piano manufactured.

Upright and Square Pianos to let and Rent Applied if Purchased. Pianos and

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